

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A stackable chair, comprising:
- 2 a seat assembly including right and left seat members having spaced apart
- 3 rear portions;
- 4 a right and left pair of front and rear leg members supporting said seat
- 5 assembly and joined outboard of respective seat members to facilitate stacking on
- 6 a like-configured seat assembly;
- 7 a back support including spaced apart right and left side support members
- 8 extending downwardly to respective right and left lower ends curved forwardly to be
- 9 positioned in registry with and spaced apart by right and left gap separations from
- 10 respective seat member rear portions;
- 11 a rear support member interposed laterally inwardly from respective right
- 12 and left back support lower ends, said rear support member forms a back frame
- 13 cross-member extended to connect between said right and left back support lower
- 14 ends;
- 15 a right and left front support member extended laterally inwardly from
- 16 respective seat member rear portions, each front support member having side
- 17 portions joined to respective seat member rear portions forward of respective right
- 18 and left gap separations, said right and left front support members are spaced
- 19 apart thereby lacking cross-member support therebetween; and
- 20 a right and left spring member being separately positioned laterally inwardly
- 21 of respective right and left gap separations, each spring member having a rear

22 portion disposed laterally inwardly of respective right and left back support lower
23 ends for coupling with said rear support member, each spring member having a
24 front portion disposed laterally inwardly of right and left seat member rear portions
25 for coupling with respective front support members, each spring member being
26 biased to return to a non-flexed position;

27 whereby said back support is reclined when sufficient force is applied
28 against said back support to pivot said spring member rear portions
29 downwardly to a flexed position, said rear support member and attached
30 back support being returned to a substantially upright position relative to
31 said seat assembly by each spring member being biased to return to the
32 non-flexed position.

1 2. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 1 further comprising a rear leg
2 cross-member having opposed ends joined between respective right and left
3 rear leg members proximally below respective right and left back support
4 lower ends, whereby said back support lower ends having said rear support
5 member interposed inwardly thereof and said spring member rear portions
6 coupled to said rear support member are stopped from further downwards
7 movement by said rear leg cross-member thereby restraining said back
8 support from further reclining movement.

1 3. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 1 further comprising right and left pairs
2 of fixation plates positioned in a covering relationship on upwardly faced front and

3 rear portions of respective spring members, said right and left pairs of fixation
4 plates including:

5 a front fixation plate connected in said covering relationship on each
6 upwardly faced spring member front portion for fixedly joining each spring member
7 front portion to respective front support members, each front fixation plate having
8 a rear edge positionable proximal of respective right and left gap separations; and

9 a rear fixation plate connected in said covering relationship on each
10 upwardly faced spring member rear portion for fixedly joining each spring member
11 rear portion with respective opposed ends of said frame support cross-member,
12 each rear fixation plate having a front edge positionable in abutting relationship
13 adjacently distal of said rear edge of each front fixation plate and proximal of
14 respective right and left gap separations;

15 whereby said front fixation plate rear edges periodically contact respective
16 rear fixation plate front edges upon forward movement of said back support when
17 said spring members return to the non-flexed position thereby denying excessive
18 forward movement of said back support past a substantially upright position.

1 4. (Currently amended) The stackable chair of Claim 1 wherein said rear
2 support member including a said back frame cross-member having opposed
3 flanged ends secured to respective right and left back support lower ends, said
4 back frame cross-member including a leading edge extending between opposed
5 flanged ends, said leading edge having an upwardly beveled configuration
6 positioned for repetitive contact with each spring member rear portion during
7 repetitive reclining movements of said back support, whereby said beveled leading

8 edge minimizes abrasion of respective spring member rear portions during
9 repetitive reclining movements of said back support.

1 5. (Currently amended) The stackable chair of Claim 3 1 wherein said right and
2 left front support member including:

3 a base portion having a sufficient lateral width extended inwardly from
4 respective right and left seat members for releasably connecting one front portion
5 of either of said right and left spring members;

6 said side portion of each front support member including a flanged side
7 member extended perpendicular to said base portion and having a side surface of
8 sufficient width to be rigidly joined to respective inboard surfaces of said right and
9 left seat members; and

10 a rearward edge extended inwardly from respective right and left seat
11 members, said rearward edge having an upwardly beveled configuration positioned
12 to be repetitively contacted by respective spring member front portions, whereby
13 said beveled configuration minimizes abrasion of respective spring member front
14 portions during repetitive reclining movements of said back support.

1 6. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 1 wherein said right and left pairs of leg
2 members including a right and left side reinforcement member extended between
3 each front and rear leg member, each respective side reinforcement member is
4 aligned parallel with and spaced apart below respective right and left seat
5 members.

1 7. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 1, further comprising:

2 a seat cushion removably connected to be supported on said seat assembly,
3 said seat cushion having a sufficient width to extend between said right and left
4 seat members and having a sufficient length to cover said back support lower ends
5 positioned in registry with and spaced apart by said right and left gap separations
6 from respective seat member rear portions, whereby said gap separations are
7 covered by said seat cushion thereby negating access from above said seat cushion
8 during repetitive reclining movements of said back support relative to said seat
9 assembly; and

10 a back support cushion removably connected to be supported by said back
11 support, said back support cushion including a sufficient width to extend between
12 said right and left side support members and having a sufficient length for support
13 of a seated occupant during repetitive reclining movements of said back support
14 relative to said seat assembly.

1 8. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 7, further comprising a right and left
2 cover guard removably positioned underneath each respective gap separation and
3 in covering relationship of each respective gap separation, each cover guard is
4 composed of pliable material readily bendable during repetitive movement of said
5 spring members between the non-flexed position to the flexed position, whereby
6 said cover guards minimize finger intrusion into either gap separation during
7 repetitive reclining movements of said back support relative to said seat assembly.

1 9. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 1 wherein said right and left
2 spring members are substantially planar along a length dimension.

1 10. (Currently amended) A stackable chair, comprising:

2 a seat assembly including right and left seat members having spaced apart
3 rear portions, said right and left seat members being disposed in a substantially
4 horizontal plane for placement of a removable seat cushion thereon;

5 a right and left pair of front and rear leg members supporting said seat
6 assembly and joined outboard of respective seat members to facilitate stacking on
7 a like-configured seat assembly;

8 a back support including spaced apart right and left frame members
9 extending to respective right and left frame lower ends curved forwardly to be
10 positioned in registry with and spaced apart by a gap separation from said rear
11 portions of said right and left seat members;

12 a rear support cross-member having flanged ends positioned to extend
13 inwardly between respective right and left frame lower ends;

14 a right and left spring member positioned to extend laterally inwardly of
15 respective right and left gap separations, each spring member having a rear portion
16 disposed laterally inwardly of respective right and left frame lower ends for fixed
17 coupling with respective flanged ends of said rear support cross-member, each
18 spring member having a front portion extended to be disposed laterally inwardly of
19 each rear portion of said right and left seat members, each spring member is
20 biased to a non-flexed position; and

21 a right and left front support member extended laterally inwardly a sufficient
22 width from respective right and left seat members for coupling thereon of said front
23 portion of respective right and left spring members, said right and left front
24 support members are spaced apart and lack cross-member support therebetween;
25 whereby upon said back support being moved to a reclined position,
26 said right and left spring members are flexed to a flexed position with
27 respective spring member rear portions moved downwardly without either
28 spring member contacting the seat cushion positioned on the seat assembly.

1 11. (Currently amended) The stackable chair of Claim 10 further comprising:

2 right and left pairs of fixation plates positioned in a covering relationship on
3 upwardly faced front and rear portions of respective spring members, said right
4 and left pairs of fixation plates including:

5 a front fixation plate connected in said covering relationship on each
6 upwardly faced spring member front portion for fixedly joining each spring member
7 front portion to respective front support members, each front plate having a rear
8 edge positionable proximally above respective right and left gap separations; and

9 a rear fixation plate connected in said covering relationship on each
10 upwardly faced spring member rear portion for fixedly joining each spring member
11 rear portion with respective opposed ends of said frame rear support cross-
12 member, each rear fixation plate having a front edge positionable in abutting
13 relationship adjacently distal of said rear edge of each front fixation plate and
14 proximally above respective right and left gap separations;

15 whereby said front fixation plate rear edges periodically contact respective
16 rear fixation plate front edges upon forward movement of said back support when
17 each spring member returns to the non-flexed position thereby denying excessive
18 forward movement of said back support past the substantially upright position.

1 12. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 10, further comprising a
2 rear leg cross-member having opposed ends joined between respective right
3 and left rear leg members proximally below respective right and left frame
4 lower ends, whereby said frame lower ends are stopped from further
5 downward movement by said rear leg cross-member thereby restraining said
6 back support from further reclining movement.

1 13. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 10 wherein said right and
2 left spring members having generally planar upper and lower surfaces and
3 are composed of material biased to rebound to said non-flexed position,
4 whereby said back support is returned to a substantially upright position
5 upon removal of induced reclining movement of the back support.

1 14. (Currently amended) The stackable chair of Claim 10 wherein said rear
2 support cross-member including a leading edge extending between opposed ends
3 and having an upwardly beveled configuration positioned to be repetitively
4 contacted by respective lower surfaces of each spring member rear portion with
5 resulting reduction in wear of each spring member rear portion during repetitive

6 contact against said bevel by downwardly movements of each spring member rear
7 portions forced by reclining movements of said back support.

1 15. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 11 wherein said right and left
2 front support members including:

3 a base portion having a sufficient lateral width extended inwardly from
4 respective right and left seat members for releasably connecting one front portion
5 of either of said right and left spring members;

6 a flanged side member extended perpendicular to said base portion and
7 having a side surface of sufficient width to be rigidly joined to respective inboard
8 surfaces of said right and left seat members; and

9 a rearward edge extended inwardly from respective right and left seat
10 members, said rearward edge having an upwardly beveled configuration positioned
11 to be repetitively contacted by respective lower surfaces of said spring member
12 front portion, whereby said beveled configuration reduces wear of each spring
13 member front portion during repetitive contact against said beveled rearward edge
14 by downwardly movements of each spring member front portion resulting from
15 reclining of said back support.

1 16. (Currently amended) The stackable chair of Claim ~~10~~ 15 wherein said right
2 and left pairs of leg members including a right and left side reinforcement member
3 extended between each front and rear leg member, each respective side
4 reinforcement member is aligned parallel with and spaced apart below said upper
5 leg segment of each right and left leg member unit.

1 17. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 16 wherein said right and left pair
2 of front and rear leg members including:

3 a right side lateral brace extended between respective right front and right
4 rear leg members, said right side lateral brace disposed generally parallel below
5 said right upper leg segment; and

6 a left side lateral brace extended between respective left front and left rear
7 leg members, said left side lateral brace disposed generally parallel below said left
8 upper leg segment.

1 18. (Currently amended) A stackable chair comprising:

2 a seat assembly including a front seat member joined to right and left seat
3 members having spaced apart rear portions, said seat assembly disposed in a
4 substantially horizontal plane to receive a seat cushion thereon;

5 a pair of right and left inverted U-shaped leg members supporting said seat
6 assembly, each pair of leg members having right and left upper leg segments joined
7 outboard of respective right and left seat members;

8 a back support frame including spaced apart right and left frame members
9 upstanding relative to the pair of seat support frame members, each right and left
10 frame member having a lower end curved forwardly and disposed in registry behind
11 said right and left seat members rear portions, said lower ends of said frame
12 members being positioned in spaced apart alignment across respective right and
13 left gap separations from respective right and left seat members;

14 a right and left spring member positioned for bridged extension laterally
15 inwardly between said right and left frame member lower ends and said rear
16 portions of said right and left seat members, each spring member having a front
17 end disposed laterally inwardly of respective rear portions of said seat members,
18 and having a rear end disposed laterally inwardly of respective frame member lower
19 ends;

20 right and left pairs of fixation plates positioned in respective covering
21 relationships on upwardly faced front and rear ends of respective spring members;

22 a right and left front support member extended laterally inwardly from
23 respective right and left seat members, each front support member is disposed
24 proximally forward of respective right and left gap separations, each front support
25 member having an adequate lateral width for fixed coupling thereon of said front
26 ~~portion~~ end of respective right and left spring members, said right and left front
27 support members lack cross-member support therebetween;

28 a frame rear cross-member having opposed ends interposed inwardly
29 between respective right and left frame member lower ends, said opposed ends of
30 said rear cross-member having an upper surface for fixed coupling thereon of said
31 rear ~~portion~~ end of respective right and left spring members, whereby each right
32 and left spring members are laterally inwardly joined between respective right and
33 left front support members and said upper surface of said frame rear cross-
34 member, thereby each right and left spring member is maintained in bridging
35 relationship laterally inwardly of respective right and left gap separations; and

36 a rear restraint bar connected between respective right and left rear leg
37 members and positioned proximally beneath said frame member lower ends,

38 whereby when said back support frame is reclined with resulting flexing
39 downwardly of said spring member rear ~~portion~~ ends, said frame member lower
40 ends are contacted against said rear restraint bar whereby reclining movement is
41 limited for said back support frame.

1 19. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 18 wherein said right and
2 left spring members having generally planar upper and lower surfaces and
3 having a depth between said upper and lower surfaces being composed of
4 material biased to rebound to a non-flexed position for said upper and lower
5 surfaces whereby said back support frame is returned to a substantially
6 upright position after each reclining movement of said back support frame.

1 20. (Currently amended) The stackable chair of Claim 18 further comprising
2 ~~right and left pairs of fixation plates positioned in a covering relationship on~~
3 ~~upwardly faced front and rear portions of respective spring members~~, said right
4 and left pairs of fixation plates including:

5 a front fixation plate connected in said covering relationship on each
6 upwardly faced spring member front portion for fixedly joining each spring member
7 front portion to respective front support members, each front fixation plate having
8 a rear edge positionable proximally above respective right and left gap separations;
9 and

10 a rear fixation plate connected in said covering relationship on each
11 upwardly faced spring member rear portion for fixedly joining each spring member
12 rear portion with respective opposed ends of said frame rear cross-member, each

13 rear fixation plate having a front edge positionable in abutting relationship
14 adjacently distal of said rear edge of each front fixation plate on said upper surface
15 of each spring member positioned adjacent respective right and left gap
16 separations;

17 whereby said front fixation plate rear edges periodically contact respective
18 paired rear fixation plate front edges upon forward movement of said back support
19 frame when each spring member returns to said non-flexed orientation thereby
20 denying excessive forward movement of said back support frame past a
21 substantially upright position.

1 21. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 18 wherein said frame rear cross-
2 member including a leading edge extending between opposed ends and having an
3 upwardly beveled configuration positioned to be repetitively contacted by respective
4 lower surfaces of each spring member rear portion with resulting reduction in wear
5 of each spring member rear portion during repetitive contact against said bevel by
6 downwardly movements of each spring member rear portions forced by reclining
7 movements of said back support frame.

1 22. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 20 wherein said right and left
2 front support members including:
3 a base portion having a sufficient lateral width extended inwardly from
4 respective right and left seat members for releasably connecting thereon of
5 respective front portions of respective right and left spring members;

6 a flanged side member extended perpendicular to said base portion and
7 having a side surface of sufficient width to be rigidly joined to respective inboard
8 surfaces of said right and left seat members; and

9 a rearward edge extended inwardly from respective right and left seat
10 members, said rearward edge having an upwardly beveled configuration positioned
11 to be repetitively contacted by respective lower surfaces of each spring member
12 front portion with resulting reduction in wear of each spring member front portion
13 during repetitive contact against said beveled rearward edge by downwardly
14 movements of each spring member front portions resulting from reclining
15 movements of said back support frame.

1 23. (Original) The stackable chair of Claim 18 wherein said right and left pair
2 of front and rear leg members including:

3 a right side lateral brace extended between respective right front and right
4 rear leg members, said right side lateral brace disposed generally parallel below
5 said right upper leg segment; and

6 a left side lateral brace extended between respective left front and left rear
7 leg members, said left side lateral brace disposed generally parallel below said left
8 upper leg segment.

1 24. (New) A stackable chair, comprising:

2 a seat assembly including right and left seat members having spaced apart
3 rear portions;

4 a right and left pair of front and rear leg members supporting said seat
5 assembly and joined outboard of respective seat members to facilitate stacking on
6 a like-configured seat assembly;

7 a back support including spaced apart right and left side support members
8 extending downwardly to respective right and left lower ends curved forwardly to be
9 positioned in registry with and spaced apart by right and left gap separations from
10 respective seat member rear portions;

11 a rear support member interposed laterally inwardly from respective right
12 and left back support lower ends, said rear support member including a back
13 frame cross-member having opposed flanged ends secured to respective right and
14 left back support lower ends, said back frame cross-member including a leading
15 edge extending between opposed flanged ends, said leading edge having an
16 upwardly beveled configuration positioned for repetitive contact with each spring
17 member rear portion during repetitive reclining movements of said back support,
18 whereby said beveled leading edge minimizes abrasion of respective spring member
19 rear portions during repetitive reclining movements of said back support;

20 a right and left front support member extended laterally inwardly from
21 respective seat member rear portions, each front support member having side
22 portions joined to respective seat member rear portions forward of respective right
23 and left gap separations, said right and left front support members are spaced
24 apart thereby lacking cross-member support connecting therebetween; and

25 a right and left spring member being separately positioned laterally inwardly
26 of respective right and left gap separations, each spring member having a rear
27 portion disposed laterally inwardly of respective right and left back support lower

28 ends for coupling with said rear support member, each spring member having a
29 front portion disposed laterally inwardly of right and left seat member rear portions
30 for coupling with respective right and left front support members, each spring
31 member being biased to return to a non-flexed position;
32 whereby said back support is reclined when sufficient force is applied
33 against said back support to pivot said spring member rear portions downwardly to
34 a flexed position, said rear support member and attached back support being
35 returned to a substantially upright position relative to said seat assembly by each
36 spring member being biased to return to the non-flexed position.

1 25. (New) The stackable chair of Claim 24 wherein said right and left front support
2 member including:
3 a base portion having a sufficient lateral width extended inwardly from
4 respective right and left seat members for releasably connecting one front portion of
5 either of said right and left spring members;
6 said side portions of each front support member including a flanged side
7 member extended perpendicular to said base portion and having a side surface of
8 sufficient width to be rigidly joined to respective inboard surfaces of said right and left
9 seat members; and
10 a rearward edge extended inwardly from respective right and left seat members,
11 said rearward edge having an upwardly beveled configuration positioned to be
12 repetitively contacted by respective spring member front portions, whereby said
13 beveled configuration minimizes abrasion of respective spring member front portions
14 during repetitive reclining movements of said back support.